



**U.S. Department of Justice**

***United States Attorney  
Eastern District of Arkansas***

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**COTTON PLANT COUPLE SENTENCED TO FEDERAL PRISON**

**Little Rock** - Jane W. Duke, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Arkansas announced Robert Joe Cochrane, age 55, and Crystal Cochrane, age 39, of Cotton Plant, Arkansas, were both sentenced to federal prison today by United States District Judge William R. Wilson, Jr. Robert Joe Cochrane was sentenced to 27 months incarceration and Crystal was sentenced to 15 months incarceration. Both were also sentenced to 3 years of supervised release after incarceration.

Both Cochranes pled guilty on Dec. 22, 2008 to aiding and abetting the possession of methamphetamine with intent to distribute. The case arose from an investigation by the 1<sup>st</sup> Judicial District Drug Task Force regarding methamphetamine trafficking in 2006. On Sept. 4, 2006, officers used a cooperating individual for a controlled purchase of methamphetamine from Mr. Cochrane. Officers executed a search warrant of the Cochrane's house on September 14, 2006, and recovered 20 firearms, drug paraphernalia, and 5.2516 grams of methamphetamine.

Robert Joe is to begin his incarceration July 13, 2009 and Crystal is to begin on June 8, 2009. Both remain out on bond until they report to the Bureau of Prisons.

This investigation was conducted by the 1<sup>st</sup> Judicial District Drug Task Force, the United States Drug Enforcement Administration and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. Assistant United States Attorney Patricia Harris prosecuted this case on behalf of the United States.

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